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"Less government, more responsibility, and — with God's help — a better world."

Hal Shurtleff
The Dangers of Agenda 21

Regional Field Director

A JBS Presentation

The John Birch Society

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The Dangers of Agenda 21

Hal Shurtleff
Regional Director
The John Birch Society

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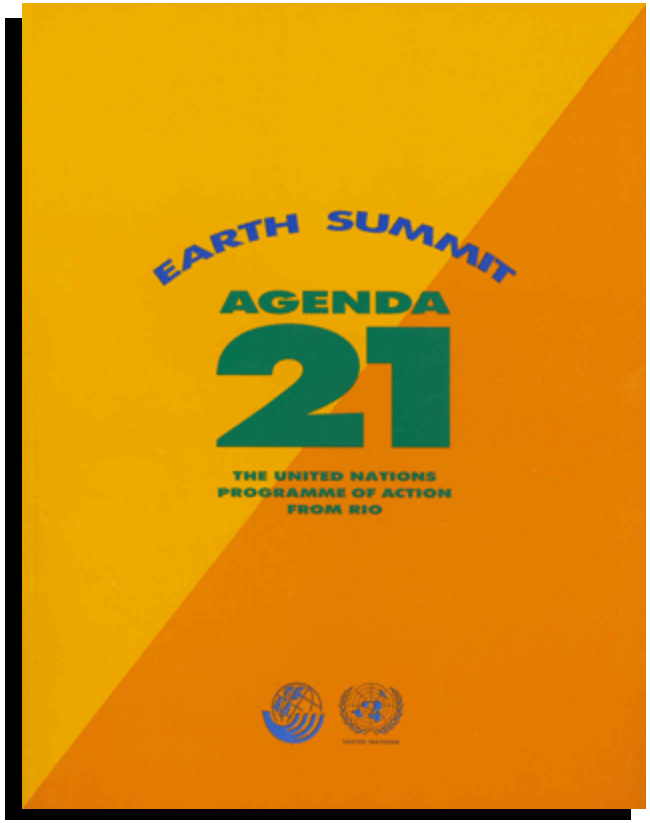
STOP AGENDA 21

Sustainability:

The thrust of Agenda 21 is to transform traditional individual property rights into collective property rights.

Agenda 21 is based upon the premise that government planning should replace the western understanding of private stewardship.



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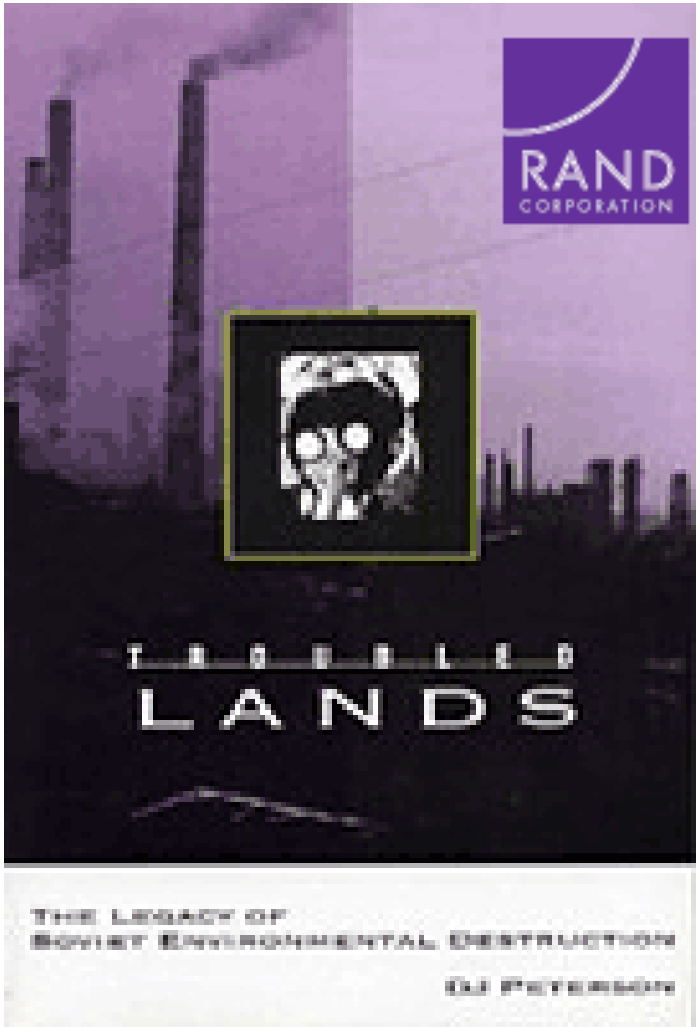
Free Market vs Socialism



Troubled Lands: The Legacy of Soviet Environmental Destruction

D. J. Peterson
Reviewed by By Richard N. Cooper
September/October 1993

FOREIGN AFFAIRS
Published by the Council on Foreign Relations

Drawing mainly on interviews and Soviet official papers and press reports, the author documents thoroughly the extensive and depressing environmental degradation of the Soviet Union. Environmentalists can take some comfort about their impact in the West and the improvements there of recent decades, when they survey this dismal picture. One of the few theoretical justifications for central planning in an industrial society, as compared to a decentralized economy based on private enterprise, is that it is able to take into account the "externalities" of waste disposal and thereby reduce air and water pollution. We see here the sharp contrast between theory and reality. The Soviet central planners basically ignored the externalities altogether except when public health was directly threatened (and often half-heartedly even then). The author also discusses the role of Soviet environmentalists in reducing the wholesale corruption of the environment and indirectly bringing down the communist system. The book is a very useful source of information.

The Green Economy

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The Green Economy
Celebrating Old Technology

1904 German Electric Car

Bundesarchiv, Bild 183-1990-1126-500
Foto: o.Ang. | 1904

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The Green Economy

Is Solar Viable?

SOLYNDRA®

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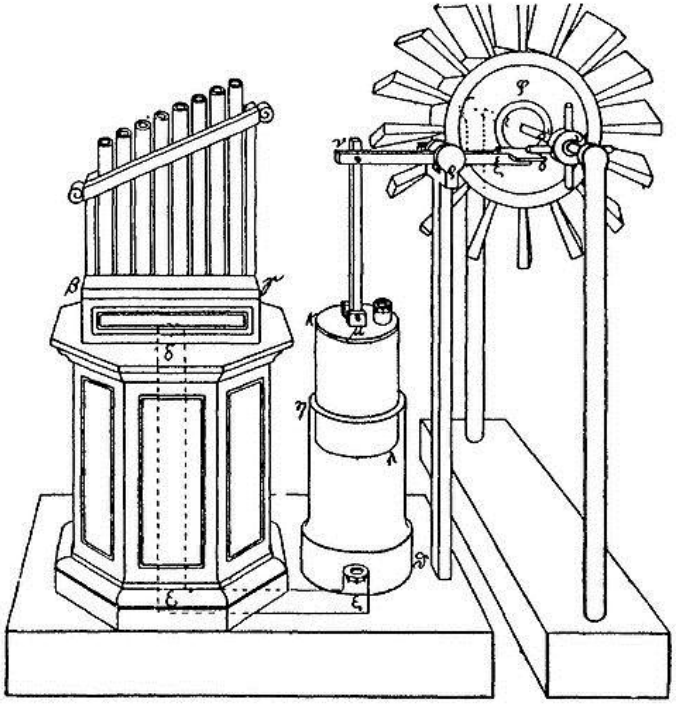
The Green Economy
Celebrating Old Technology

The wind wheel of the Greek engineer Heron of Alexandria in the 1st century AD is the earliest known instance of using a wind-driven wheel to power a machine.



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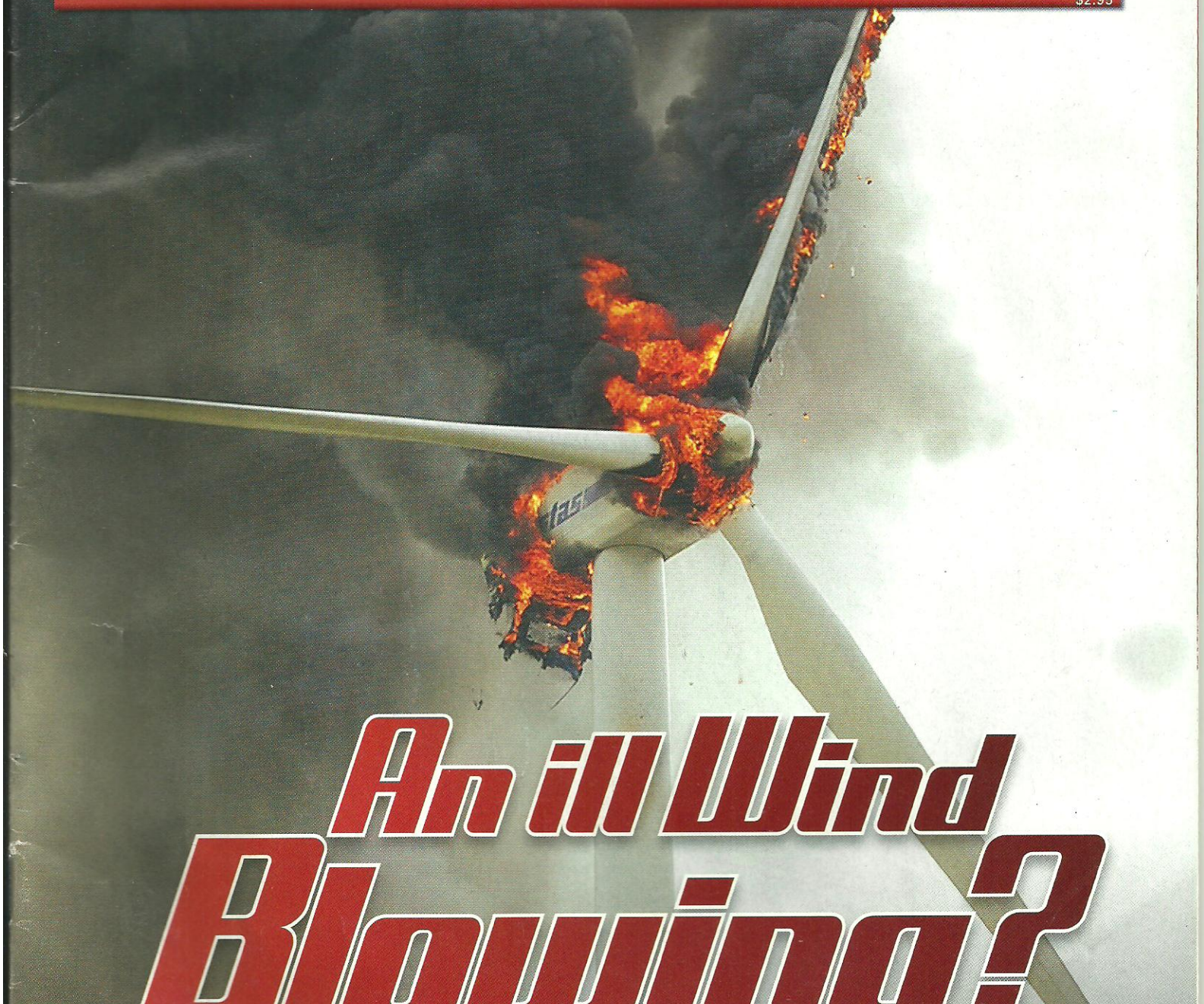
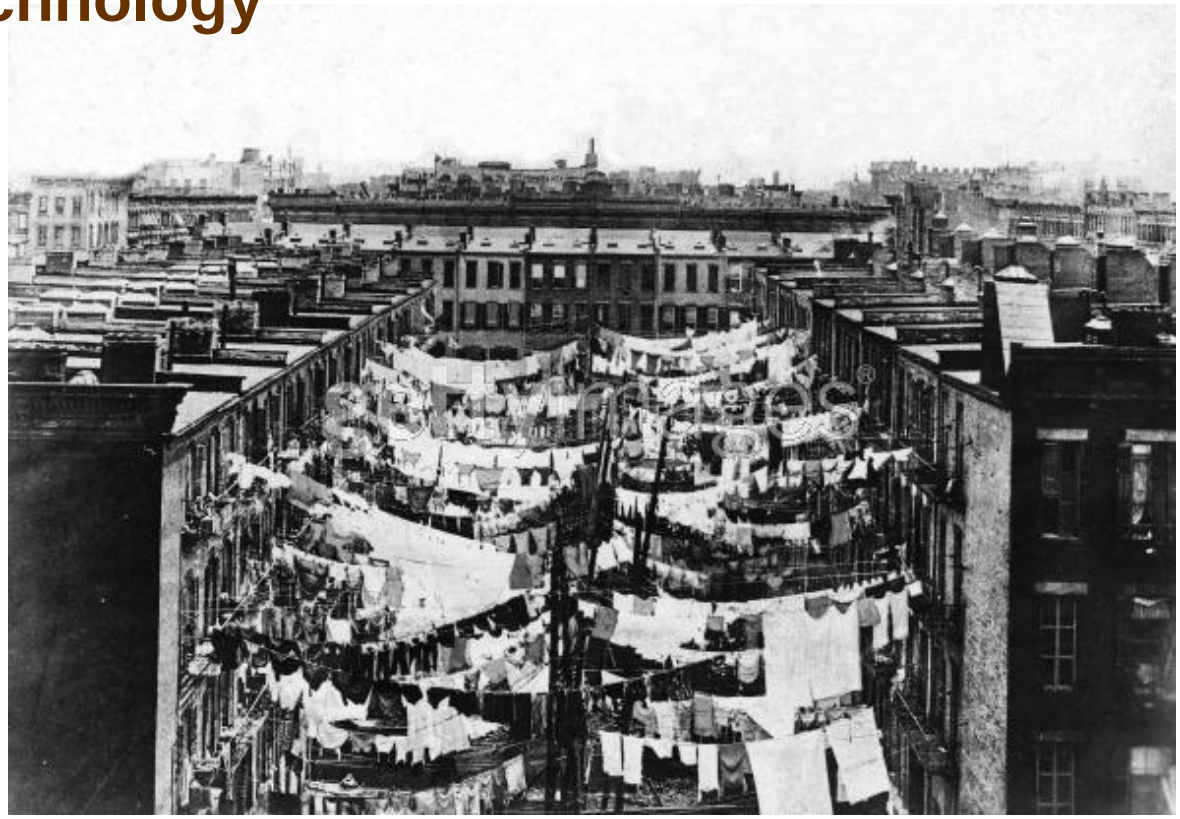


An ill Wind Blowing?

The Green Economy
Celebrating Old Technology

Solar Dryer



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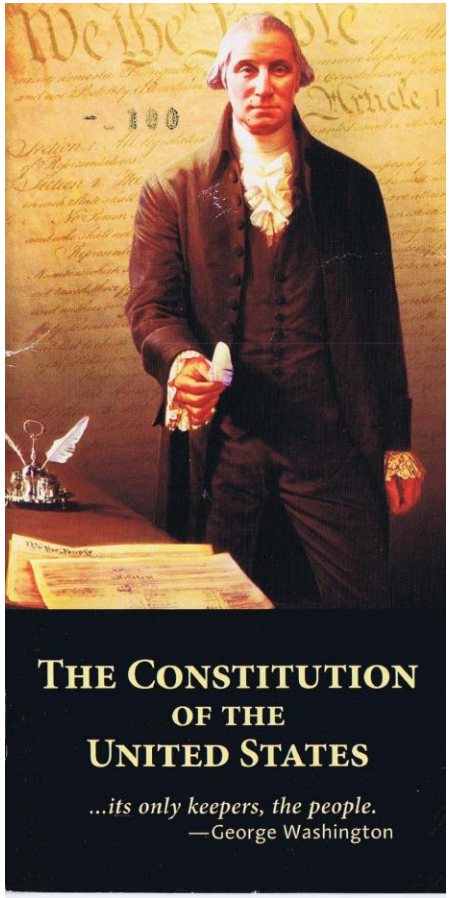
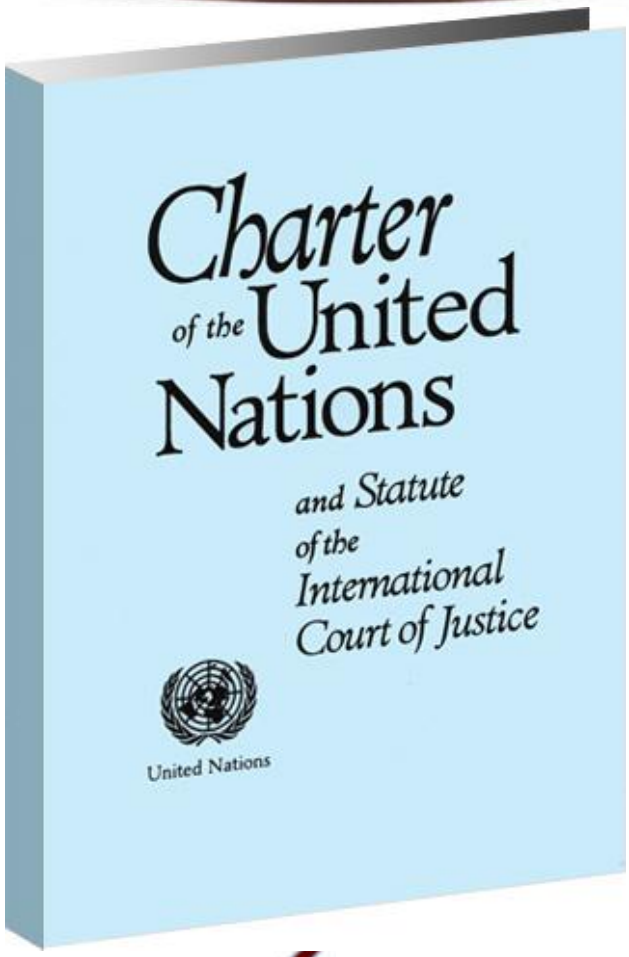
Free Market vs Socialism





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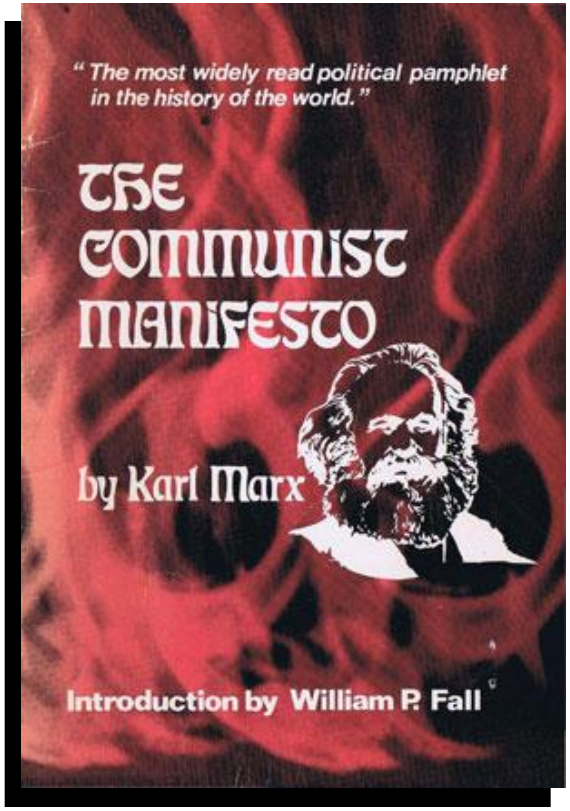
The 10 Planks of Communism

1. Abolition of property in land and application of all rents of land to public purposes.
2. A heavy progressive or graduated income tax.
3. Abolition of all right of inheritance.
4. Confiscation of the property of all emigrants and rebels.
5. Centralization of credit in the hands of the State, by means of a national bank with State capital and an exclusive monopoly.



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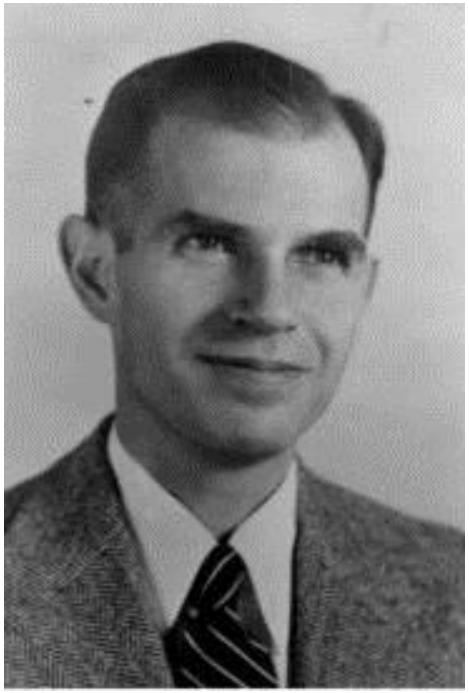
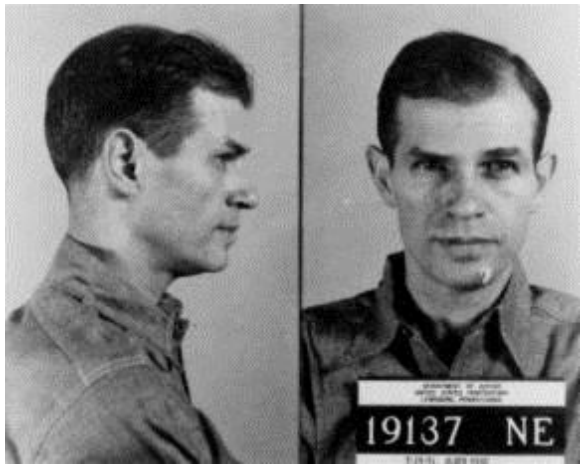
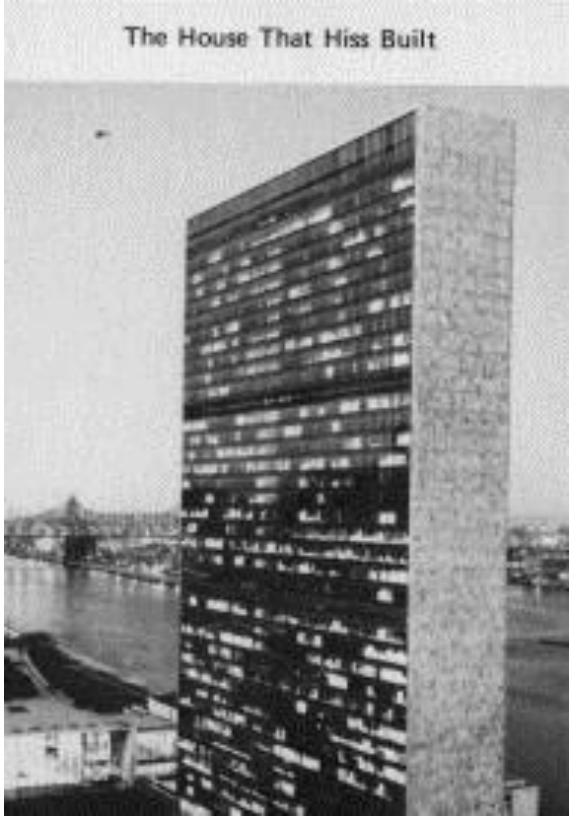
The United Nations

The Alger Hiss Connection







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UN TROOPS

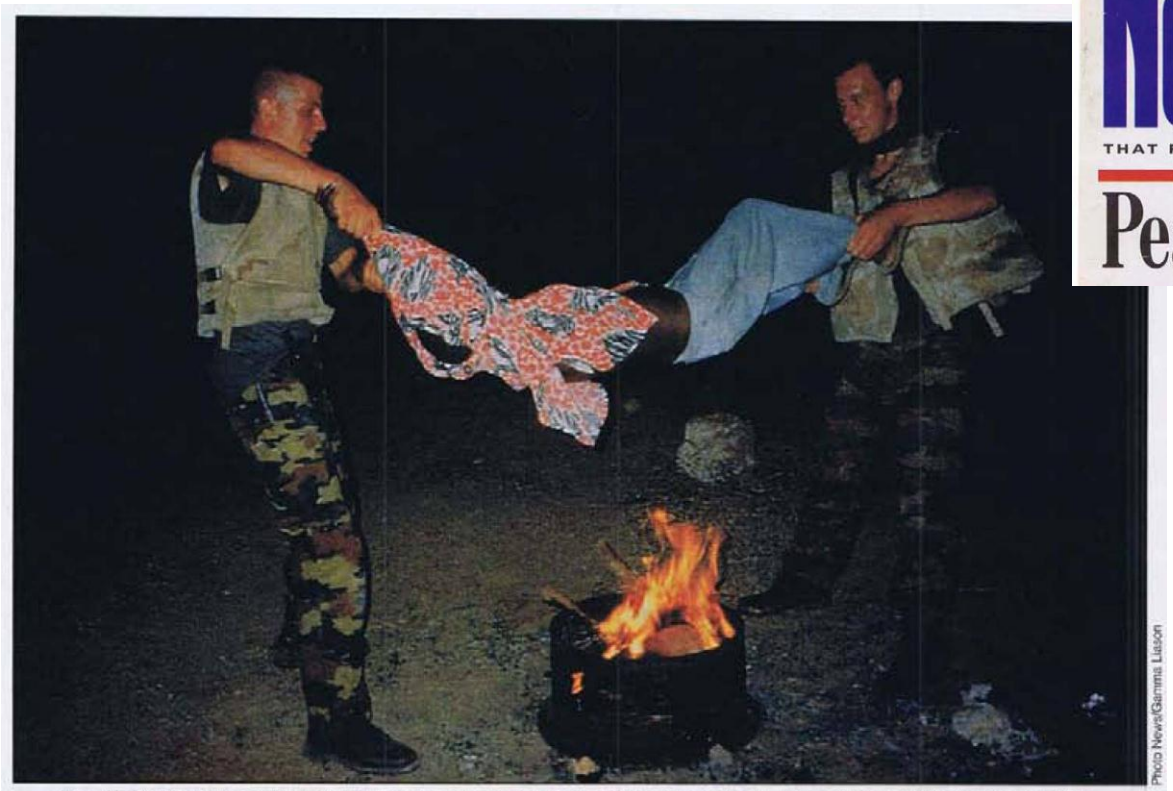

Photo News/Gamma Liaison

Two United Nations soldiers from Belgium were caught on camera swinging a Somalian youth over an open fire.

Cozy With the KGB • A Wrench in the Free Market • Remembering Bunker Hill • Fast Track to Globalism

The New American

September 29, 1997

THAT FREEDOM SHALL NOT PERISH

Vol. 13, No. 20

FELONIOUS FUND-RAISING

Peacekeepers in Action

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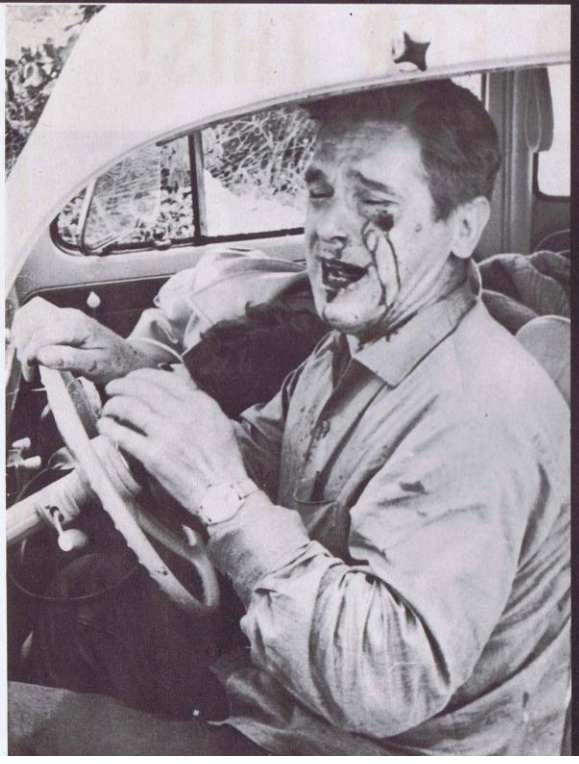
UN TROOPS

"As for me, I do not take any white prisoners! I ordered my men to kill all Europeans and to finish off the wounded."

COLONEL MITRA
United Nations Indian Officer,
Elisabethville, Katanga



UN TROOPS

A Gun To The Head

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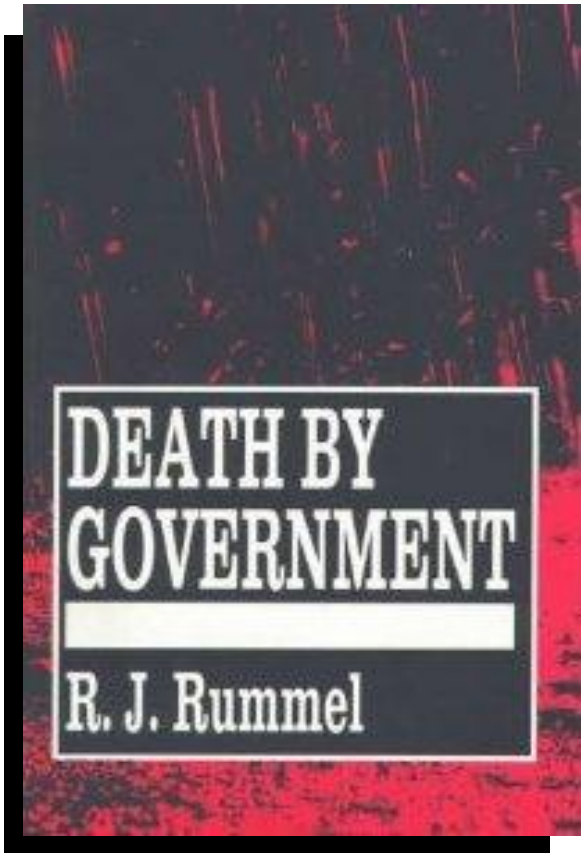
Death By Government



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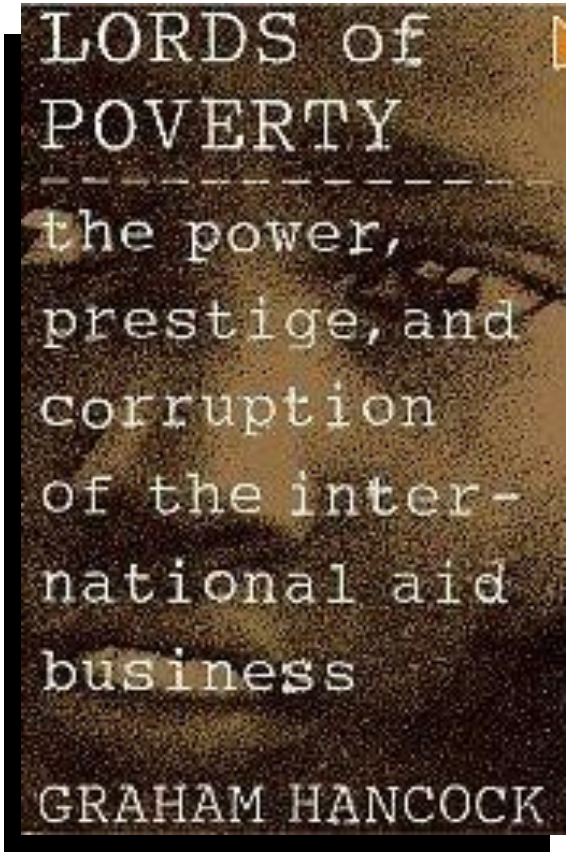
The Lords of Poverty



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Our Common Future

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Vancouver Meeting 1976

- "All countries should establish as a matter of urgency a national policy on human
- settlements, embodying the distribution of population...over national territory.
- Such a policy should be devised to facilitate population redistribution to accord
- with the availability of resources." (Recommendation A.1, HABITAT I,
- Vancouver).
- The Commission on Sustainable Development's report laments "The U.S. does not

UNITED NATIONS CONFERENCE ON
ENVIRONMENT AND DEVELOPMENT
Rio de Janeiro 3 – 14 June 1992

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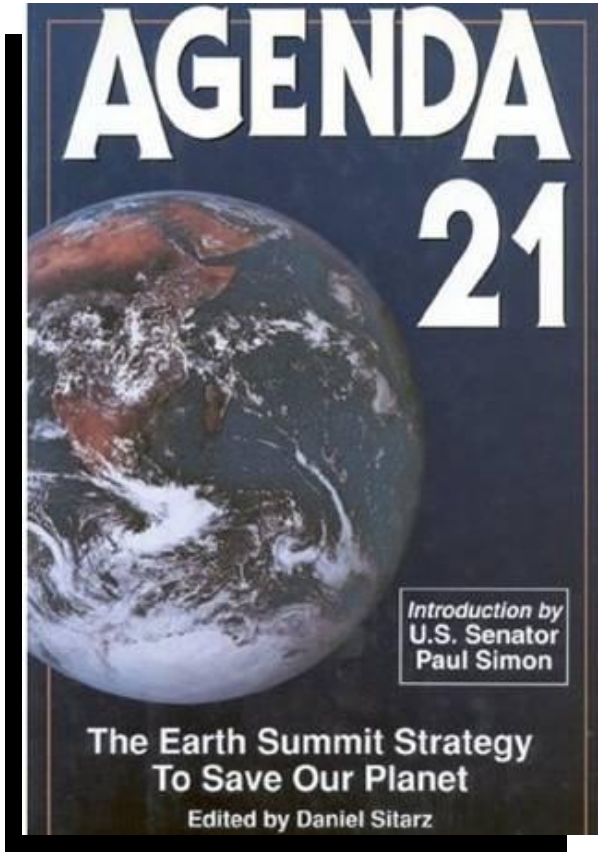
Agenda 21: The Earth Summit Strategy To Save Our Problem



"Effective execution of Agenda 21 will require a profound reorientation of all human society, unlike anything the world has ever experienced—a major shift in the priorities of both governments and individuals and an unprecedented redeployment of human and financial resources. This shift will demand that a concern for the environmental consequences of every human action be integrated into individual and collective decision-making at every level"

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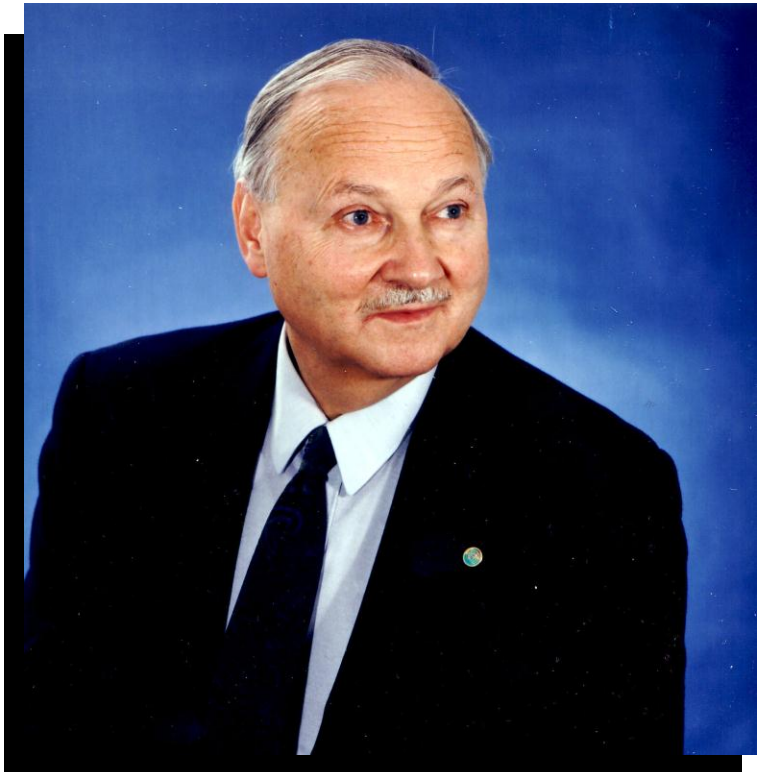
Maurice Strong – Founder of the UN Environment Programme



"*Isn't the only hope for the planet that the industrialized civilizations collapse? Isn't it our responsibility to bring that about?*"
- **Maurice Strong**, founder of the UN Environment Programme

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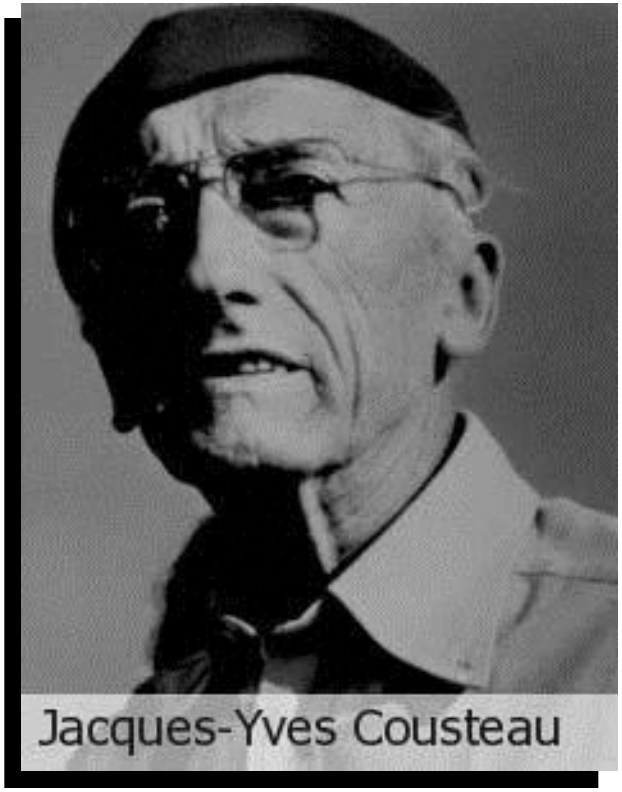
Jacques Yves Cousteau



"

"One American tires the earth much more than twenty Bangladeshis. … World population must be stabilized and to do that we must eliminate 350,000 people per day." *UNESCO Courier*, November 1991

"An American-born child environmentally is too expensive to maintain to his or her adulthood in a world economy. American women must be subjected to some manner of regulation beyond licensing and mandatory abortion practices." Speech at Earth Summit, 1992

"

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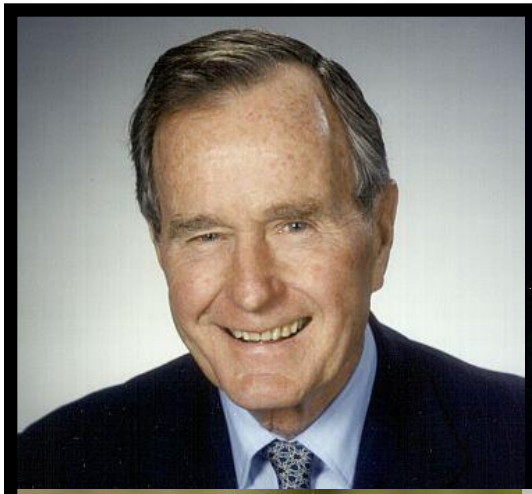

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J. Gary Lawrence – Advisor to Bill Clinton

Stealth Agenda

"Participating in a UN advocated planning process would very likely bring out many of the conspiracy-fixated groups and individuals in our society….This segment of our society who fear 'one-world government" and a UN invasion of the United States through which our individual freedom would be stripped away would actively work to defeat any elected official who joined 'the conspiracy." So let's call our processes something else such as comprehensive planning, growth management or smart growth"

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Simulated Reserve and Corridor System to Protect Biodiversity

As Required by the UN Covention on Biological Diversity, Wildlands Project, UN and US Man and Biosphere Programs and World Heritage Program as a Vital Step in Attaining Sustainable Development

This map was used in the United States Senate to stop the ratification of the United Nations Convention on Biological Diversity

Stack Them & Pack Them Housing ---
The Wave of the future?

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Benefit Corporations

If you're interested in passing benefit corp legislation in your state, please contact [illegible]. To see a draft of the model legislation, click [illegible].

Care2 Petition

Support Benefit Corp Legislation

New York

Michigan

Passed Legislation

California Benefit Corporation

Status: Passed
Sponsors: Huffman
Legislation: [illegible]
Key Supporters: [illegible], **Jonathan Storper, Donald Simon,** [illegible], **Green Chamber of Commerce,** [illegible], **Patagonia,** [illegible] **and Green Seal.**
Quotes/Testimony: [illegible]

New York Benefit Corporation

Status: Passed Senate 62-0 and Assembly 139-0
Sponsors: Speaker Silver (A4692-a) and Sen. Squadron (S79-a)
Legislation: [illegible]
Key Supporters: [illegible]
Quotes/Testimony: [illegible]

Hawaii Benefit Corporation

Status: Signed July 8th
Sponsors: House: C. Lee, Browner, Carroll, Evans, Hanohano, M. Lee, Morita, Nakashima, Aquino, Awana, Chang, Chong, Choy, Cullen, Hashem, Mizuno, Nishimoto, B. Oshiro, Pine, Tsuji, Yamashita
Senate: Ihara, Chun Oakland, Green, Solomon, Espero, Fukunaga, Gabbard, Galuteria, Ige, Nishihara, Ryan, Slom, Taniguchi, Tokuda, Wakai
Legislation: [illegible]
Key Supporters: Gary Hooser

Virginia Benefit Corporation

Status: Signed into law on 03/26/2011 will take effect on 07/01/2011
Sponsors: Jennifer L. McClellan, Robert H. Brink, Benjamin L. Cline, Rosalyn R. Dance, Chamiele L. Herring, Kaye Kory L. Scott Lingamfelter
Legislation: [illegible]
Key Supporters: [illegible]

Achieving this vision requires a vibrant and sustainable economy supported by vital communities and a healthy environment.

Prepared for the Maine Economic Growth Council
by the

MAINE DEVELOPMENT FOUNDATION

295 WATER STREET, SUITE 5 AUGUSTA, ME 04330 • TEL: (207) 622-6345 • WWW.MDF.ORG

12 School Street Hudson, New Hampshire 03051 603/886-6024 FAX 603/598-6481

August 5, 2011

U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development
451 Seventh Street SW
Washington, DC 20410

RE: Sustainable Communities Initiative Application for New Hampshire Regional Planning Commissions (CDFA #: 14.703 Funding Opportunity Number: FR-5500-N-30)

On behalf of the Town of Hudson, New Hampshire, I am pleased to convey my support for the New Hampshire application to the Sustainable Communities Regional Planning Grant Program as proposed by the consortium of Regional Planning Commissions within the state.

It is the Town's intent to help ensure that the regional plan for sustainable development is a strong consensus-based document that reflects our community's interests, perspectives and priorities. We commit to participating in this cooperative effort by assisting in the development of regional policies, identifying strategies and prioritizing implementation measures to achieve the goal of sustainability within the region.

We understand that the Nashua regional Planning Commission/Metropolitan Planning Organization (NRPC) is the lead applicant for submitting the application to HUD on behalf of the Regional Planning consortium. As the lead applicant, NRPC will assume administrative responsibility to ensure that the program is carried out in compliance with HUD requirements.

We are supportive of the proposal and look forward to actively participating in a process that will enable our region to integrate sustainable development principles and goals in our priorities for future development. Please feel free to contact me should you have any questions.

Sincerely,

HUDSON BOARD OF SELECTMEN

Shawn N. Jasper

Businesses Going Green

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ICLIE: International Council for Local Environmental Initiatives

http://www.icleiusa.org/

ICLEI - Local Governments for Sustainability is an association of over 1220 local government Members who are committed to sustainable development. Our Members come from 70 different countries and represent more than 569,885,000 people.

ICLEI is an international association of local governments as well as national and regional local government organizations who have made a commitment to sustainable development.

ICLEI provides technical consulting, training, and information services to build capacity, share knowledge, and support local government in the implementation of sustainable development at the local level. Our basic premise is that locally designed initiatives can provide an effective and cost-efficient way to achieve local, national, and global sustainability objectives.

ICLIE: Leadership

http://www.icleiusa.org/

World Secretariat

David Cadman
ICLEI President and City Councilor, Vancouver, BC Canada

Biography

President of ICLEI
Deputy Mayor of Vancouver.
Three-term Vancouver City Councillor, 2002, 2005, 2008.
Councillor with COPE, the Coalition of Progressive Electors.
Greater Vancouver Regional District and Metro Vancouver
board of directors,
Land Use and Transportation committee;
Environment and Energy committee.

A social and environmental activist for over 30 years,
President of the Society Promoting Environmental Conservation (SPEC).
National and International level of the United Nations Association,
Awarded the United Nations Peace medal
Awarded the United Nations 50th Anniversary medal.

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ICLIE: Leadership

http://www.icleiusa.org/

Konrad Otto-Zimmermann
ICLEI Secretary General, Freiburg, Germany

Biography

Previous responsibilities:
1992-2001 -ICLEI Dep Sec General and Reg Director for Europe of ICLEI
1987-1992 -Head of the Environmental Planning, City of Freiburg, Ger
1985-1987 -Project Leader, "Environmental Project Black Forest“
1977-1985 -Head of Urban Env Plan Sec, Federal Env Agency, Berlin, Ger

Memberships:
World Economic Forum´s Global Agenda Council on Urban Management
Alumni of HRH Prince of Wales's Bus & the Env Programme, Cambridge, UK
Association of Town and Regional Planners, Germany
Environmental Law Society, Germany
Environmental Impact Assessment Society, Germany

ICLIE: Leadership

President

Mr. David Cadman
Councillor
Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada

Vice President

Ms. Martha Delgado-Peralta
Secretary of Environment
Mexico City, Mexico

Western and Central Europe

Mr. Per Bødker Andersen
Deputy Mayor
Kolding, Denmark

Mr. Jürgen Nimptsch
Mayor
Bonn, Germany

Mr. Jyrki Myllyvirta
Mayor
Lahti, Finland

Dr. Dieter Salomon
Lord Mayor
City of Freiburg, Germany

East Asia

Mr. Young-Gyu Kwon
Vice-Mayor
City of Seoul, Republic of Korea

Mr. Daisaku Kadokawa
Mayor
Kyoto City, Japan

Mr. Yeom Tae-Young
Mayor
Suwon City, Republic of Korea

Latin American and Caribbean

Dr. Eduardo Jorge Martins Alves
Secretary of Environment
City of São Paulo, Brazil

ICLIE: Leadership

Oceania

Mr. Peter Matic
Councillor
City of Brisbane, Australia

Dr.Cathy Oke
Councillor
City of Melbourne, Australia

Southern Asia

Mr. Aniruddhe Mukerjee
Secretary of Transport and Managing
Madhya Pradesh, India

Ms. Hansa Patel
Executive Director
All India Institute of Local Self Gover

North America

Mr. Stephen Mandel
Mayor
Edmonton, Alberta, Canada

Mr. Patrick Hays

Mayor
North Little Rock, Arkansas, U.S.A.

Ms. Margaret Pageler
Urban Sustainability Advisor
Seattle, Washington, USA

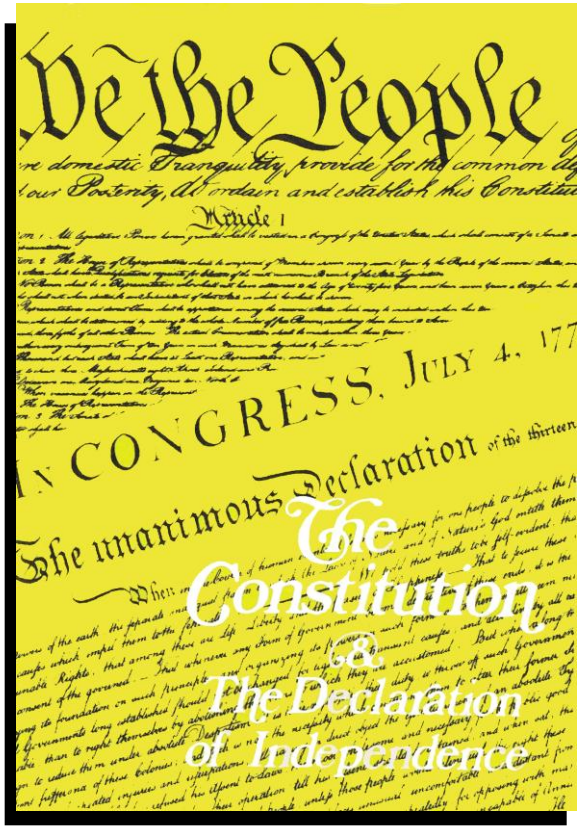
Ms. Pam O'Connor
Mayor Pro Tempore
Santa Monica, California, USA.

Mr. Harvey Ruvin
Clerk of the Courts
Miami-Dade County, Florida, U.S.A.

ICLIE Membership Un-Constitutional

United States Constitution: Article 1 Section 10

No state shall enter into any treaty, alliance, or confederation; … enter into any agreement or compact with another state, or with a foreign power…



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ICLIE: Local Memberships

ICLEI USA Members

ICLEI in PA

- Haverford
- Meadville

- Middletown
- Mt. Lebanon
- Montgomery Township
- Nether Providence
- Penn Hills
- Warwick Township
- West Chester

ICLEI in Michigan

- Ann Arbor
- Dearborn
- Flint
- Grand Rapids
- Grand Traverse City
- Traverse City
- Washtenaw County

ICLEI in NH

- Nashua
- Portsmouth
- Keene
- Wolfboro

ICLEI in CT

Branford
Bridgeport
Essex
Groton
New Haven
New London
Ridgefield
Stamford
Windsor

Green in CT

Connecticut Green Collar Jobs

Green in CT

Connecticut
Energy Education
www.ctenergyeducation.com

CT Green Schools

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ICLIE:
Massachusettes Memberships

Acton
Amesbury
Amherst
Belmont
Boston
Brookline
Cambridge
Chelmsford
Concord
Dedham
Devens
Hingham
Ipswich
Kingston
Lexington
Marshfield
Medford
Milton
Natick
Nantucket
Newton
Northampton
Salem
Tewksbury
Tyngsborough
Wellesley
Winchester
Worcester

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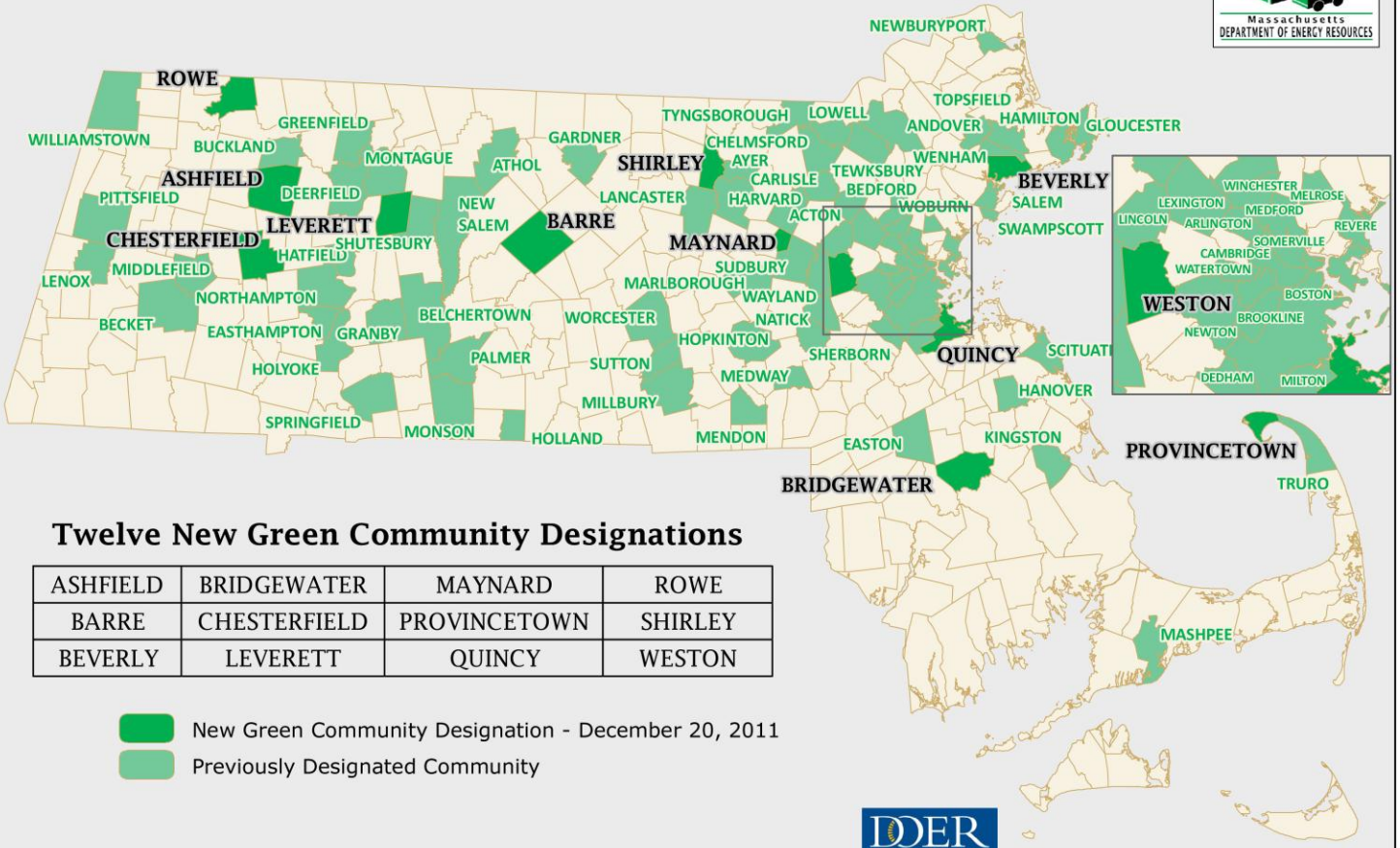
GREEN COMMUNITY DESIGNATIONS REACH EIGHTY-SIX



Twelve New Green Community Designations

ASHFIELD	BRIDGEWATER	MAYNARD	ROWE
BARRE	CHESTERFIELD	PROVINCETOWN	SHIRLEY
BEVERLY	LEVERETT	QUINCY	WESTON

New Green Community Designation - December 20, 2011

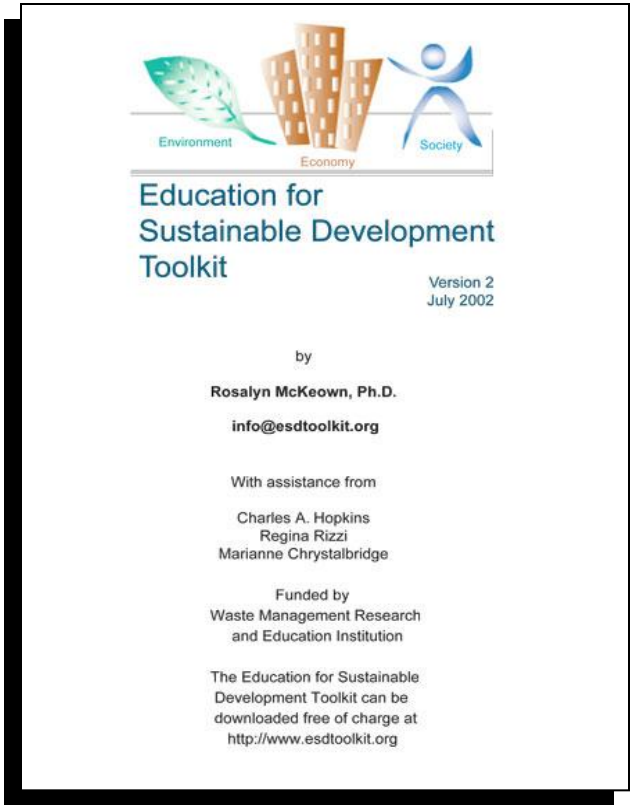
Previously Designated Community

J.Pfister, 12-21-11

Education: Promise & Paradox

"Generally, more highly educated people, who have higher incomes, consume more resources than poorly educated people, who tend to have lower incomes. In this case, more education increases the threat to sustainability."

The ESD Toolkit version 2.0: See the Introduction subheading – Education: Promise and Paradox


Environment
Economy
Society

Education for Sustainable Development Toolkit

Version 2
July 2002

by

Rosalyn McKeown, Ph.D.

info@esdtoolkit.org

With assistance from

Charles A. Hopkins
Regina Rizzi
Marianne Chrystalbridge

Funded by
Waste Management Research and Education Institution

The Education for Sustainable Development Toolkit can be downloaded free of charge at http://www.esdtoolkit.org

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The Greening of the Dept. of Education

"Today, I promise you that [the Department of Education] will be a committed partner in the national effort to build a more environmentally literate and responsible society… *We must advance the sustainability movement through education…* Education and sustainability are the keys to our economic future-and our ecological future…"

The Greening of the Department of Education: Secretary Duncan's Remarks at the Sustainability Summit
SEPTEMBER 21, 2010

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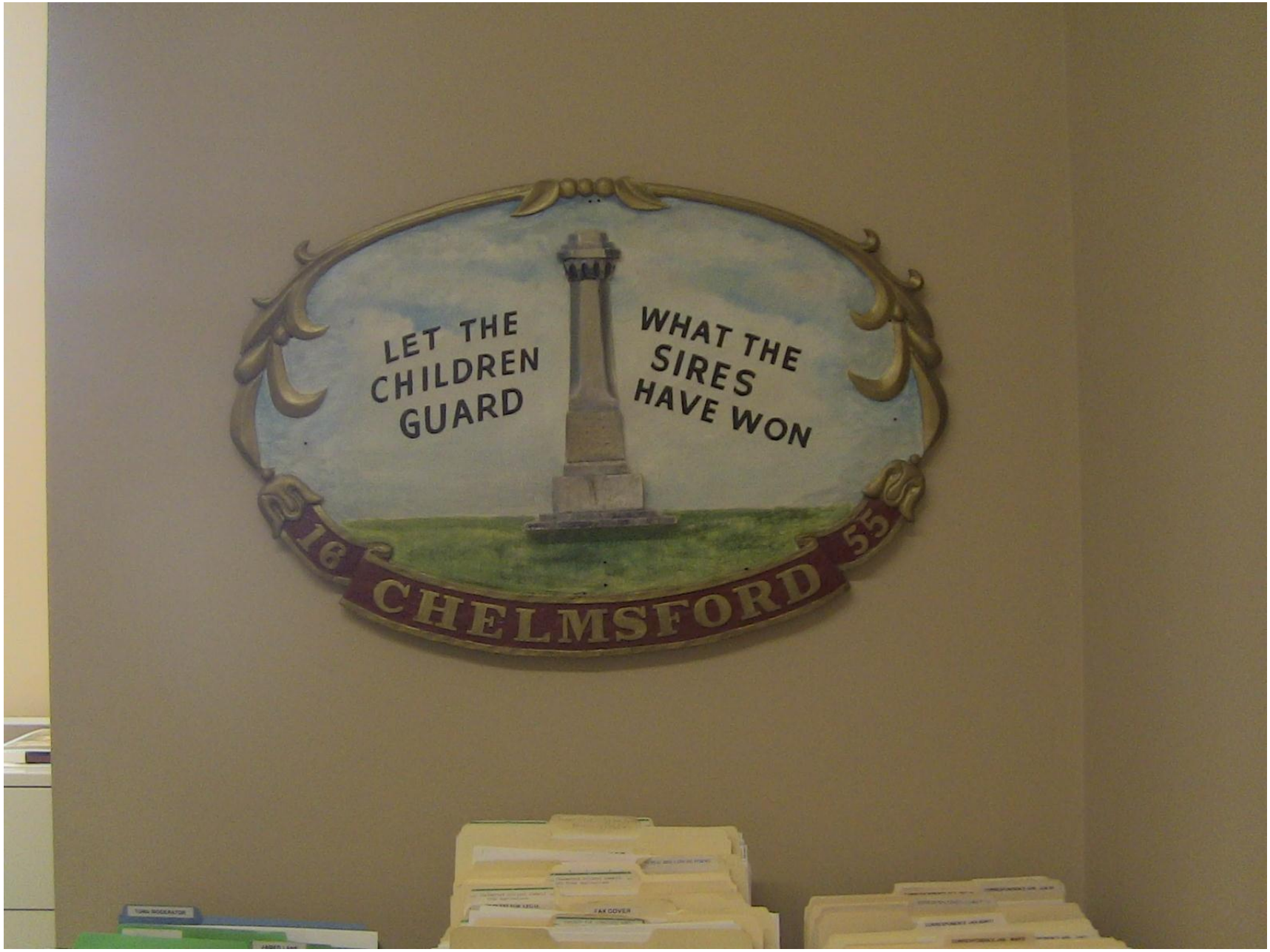
LET THE
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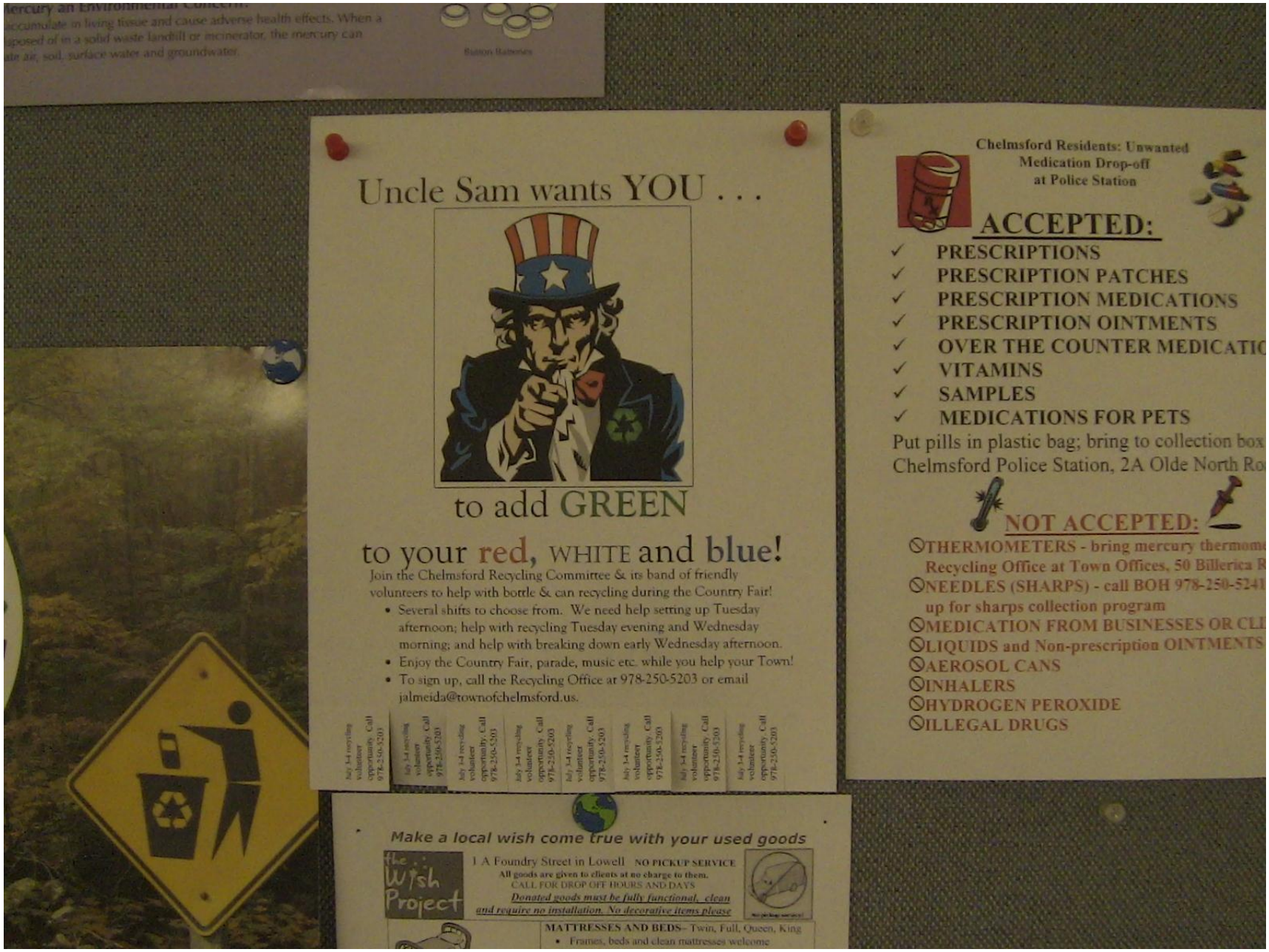
16
CHELMSFORD
55

affiliated with Lowell General Hospital's Corporate Wellness Program. For more information about the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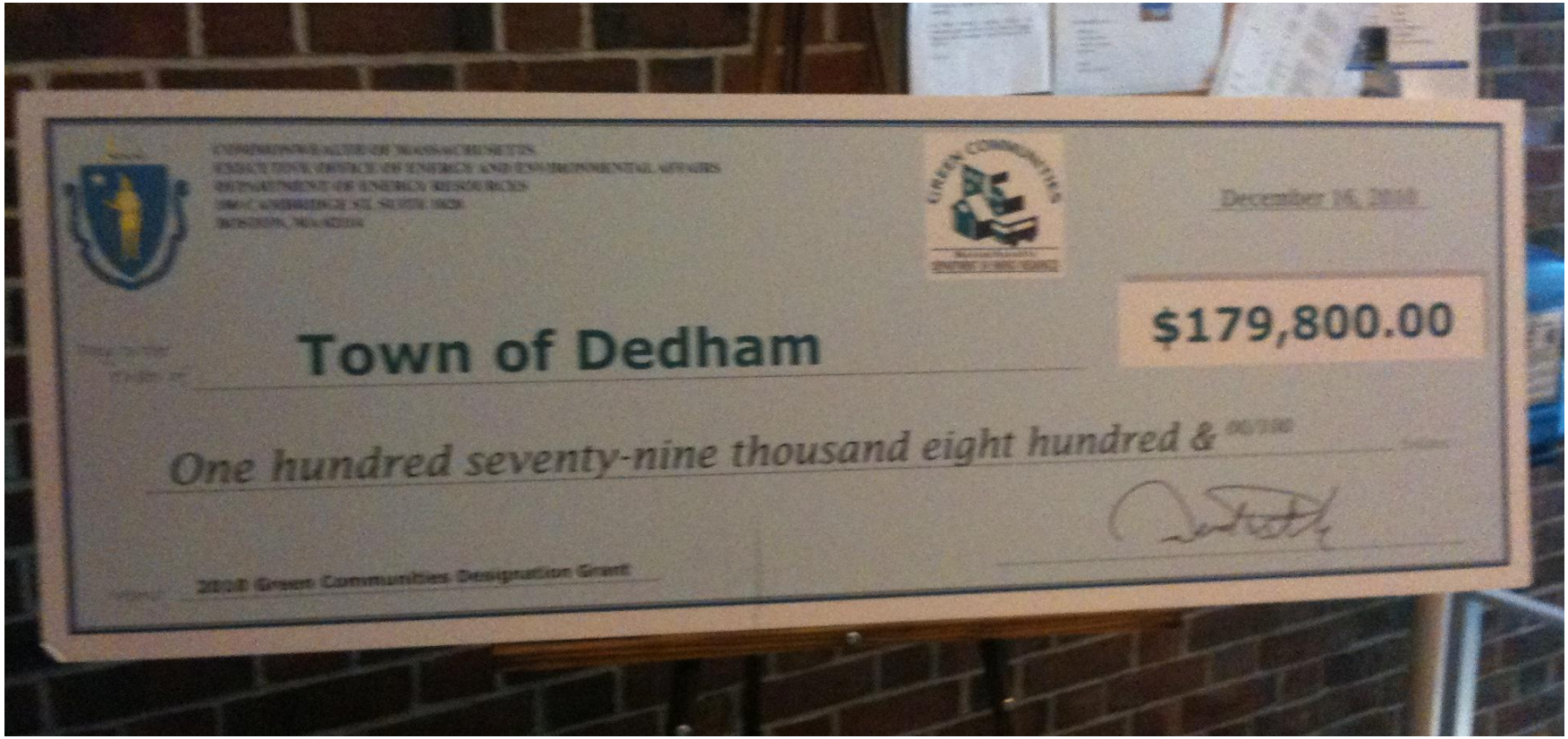
to add GREEN
to your red, WHITE and blue!
Join the Chelmsford Recycling Committee & its band of friendly volunteers to help with bottle & can recycling during the Country Fair!
• Several shifts to choose from. We need help setting up Tuesday afternoon; help with recycling Tuesday evening and Wednesday morning; and help with breaking down early Wednesday afternoon.
• Enjoy the Country Fair, parade, music etc. while you help your Town!
• To sign up, call the Recycling Office at 978-250-5203 or email jalmeida@townofchelmsford.us.
Chelmsford Residents: Unwanted Medication Drop-off at Police Station
ACCEPTED:
✓ PRESCRIPTIONS
✓ PRESCRIPTION PATCHES
✓ PRESCRIPTION MEDICATIONS
✓ PRESCRIPTION OINTMENTS
✓ OVER THE COUNTER MEDICATIO
✓ VITAMINS
✓ SAMPLES
✓ MEDICATIONS FOR PETS
Put pills in plastic bag; bring to collection box
Chelmsford Police Station, 2A Olde North Ro
NOT ACCEPTED:
THERMOMETERS - bring mercury thermom
Recycling Office at Town Offices, 50 Billerica R
NEEDLES (SHARPS) - call BOH 978-250-5241
up for sharps collection program
MEDICATION FROM BUSINESSES OR CLI
LIQUIDS and Non-prescription OINTMENTS
AEROSOL CANS
INHALERS
HYDROGEN PEROXIDE
ILLEGAL DRUGS
Make a local wish come true with your used goods
the Wish Project
1 A Foundry Street in Lowell NO PICKUP SERVICE
All goods are given to clients at no charge to them.
CALL FOR DROP OFF HOURS AND DAYS
Donated goods must be fully functional, clean and require no installation. No decorative items please
MATTRESSES AND BEDS– Twin, Full, Queen, King
• Frames, beds and clean mattresses welcome

Button Cell Batteries
For information on other mercury products found in the home and how to recycle them, visit www.mass.gov/dep or call the Mercury Hotline at 866-9-MERCURY.
Look for a mercury label or Hg symbol on newer products.
FLUORESCENTS SAVE ENERGY. RECYCLING SAVES THE EARTH.
NEMA
ase care
t clean air!
w you care by
ng your vehicle
RECYCLE YOUR WIRELESS PHONE
TM
Over 230 million Americans have a cell phone. Americans buy a new cell phone every 9-18 months.
One cell phone, if thrown away, can pollute 40,000 gallons of ground water.
Continued recycling and reuse of cell phones substantially reduces the number of phones manufactured globally every year.
Recycling your cell phone is good for the environment!

Bribed With Your Own Money !



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Marshfield Townhall

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Marshfield Townhall

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that Marshfield, MA will join ICLEI as a Full Member and participate in the Cities for Climate Protection Campaign and, as a participant, pledges to take a leadership role in promoting public awareness about the causes and impacts of climate change.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that Marshfield, MA will undertake the Cities for Climate Protection Campaign's five milestones to reduce both greenhouse gas and air pollution emissions throughout the community, and specifically:

- Conduct a greenhouse gas emissions inventory and forecast to determine the source and quantity of greenhouse gas emissions in the jurisdiction;
- Establish a greenhouse gas emissions reduction target;
- Develop an action plan with both existing and future actions which when implemented will meet the local greenhouse gas reduction target;
- Implement the action plan; and
- Monitor and report progress; and

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED that Marshfield, MA requests assistance from ICLEI's Cities for Climate Protection Campaign as it progresses through the milestones.

Kingston

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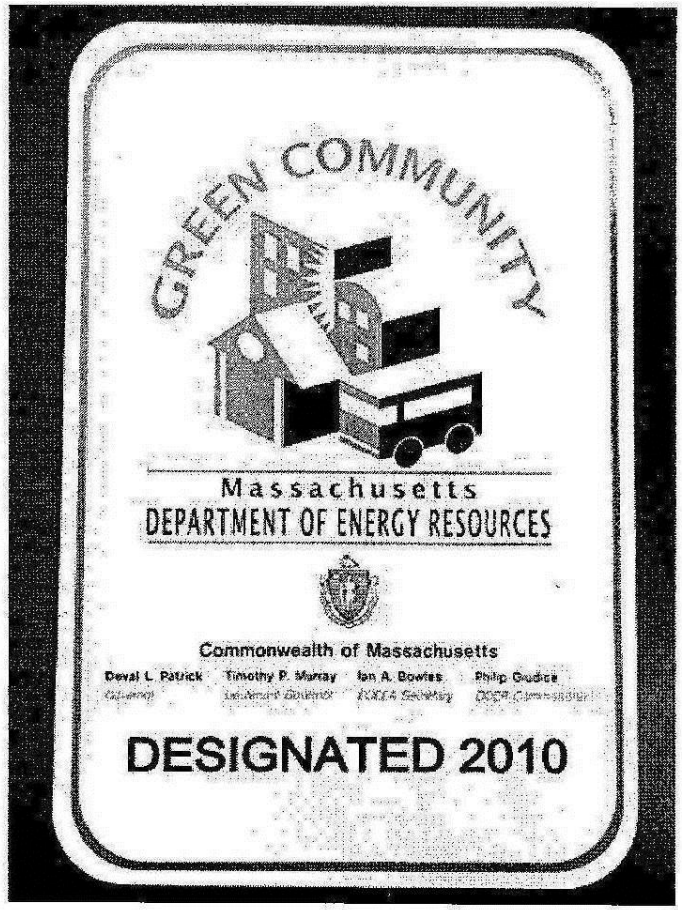
Kingston Goes Green



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Kingston Wants You To Join The Nature Conservancy

What we can do

- ***Appoint a committee to focus on aquifer protection:*** Comprised of town representatives within the aquifer's boundary – Bourne, Carver, Kingston, Plymouth, Plympton and Wareham – the committee's goals are to raise awareness of the aquifer and promote its protection.
- ***Support your town's efforts to strengthen by-laws for aquifer protection:*** These by-laws can include zoning clusters, transfer of development rights, policies for well placement, and natural areas protection. Ideally, the six towns will have uniform aquifer protection bylaws.
- ***Adopt practices that protect the aquifer in your own home:*** Individual actions, such as water conservation, landscaping with native plants, and the careful disposal of gas and oil can all help clean the aquifer healthy. For tips on landscaping that saves water, visit http://www.nsrwa.org/greenscapes/default.html
- ***Join The Nature Conservancy or other local conservation organization:*** Visit nature.org/Massachusetts to find out what The Nature Conservancy is doing in your area.

For more information, contact:

The Nature Conservancy
Protecting nature. Preserving life.™

Southeast Massachusetts Program
4 Long Pond Road
Plymouth, MA 02360
(508) 732-0300

SRPEDD

Southeastern Regional Planning
and Economic Development District
88 Broadway
Taunton, MA 02780
(508) 824-1367

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Going Green in Wellesley

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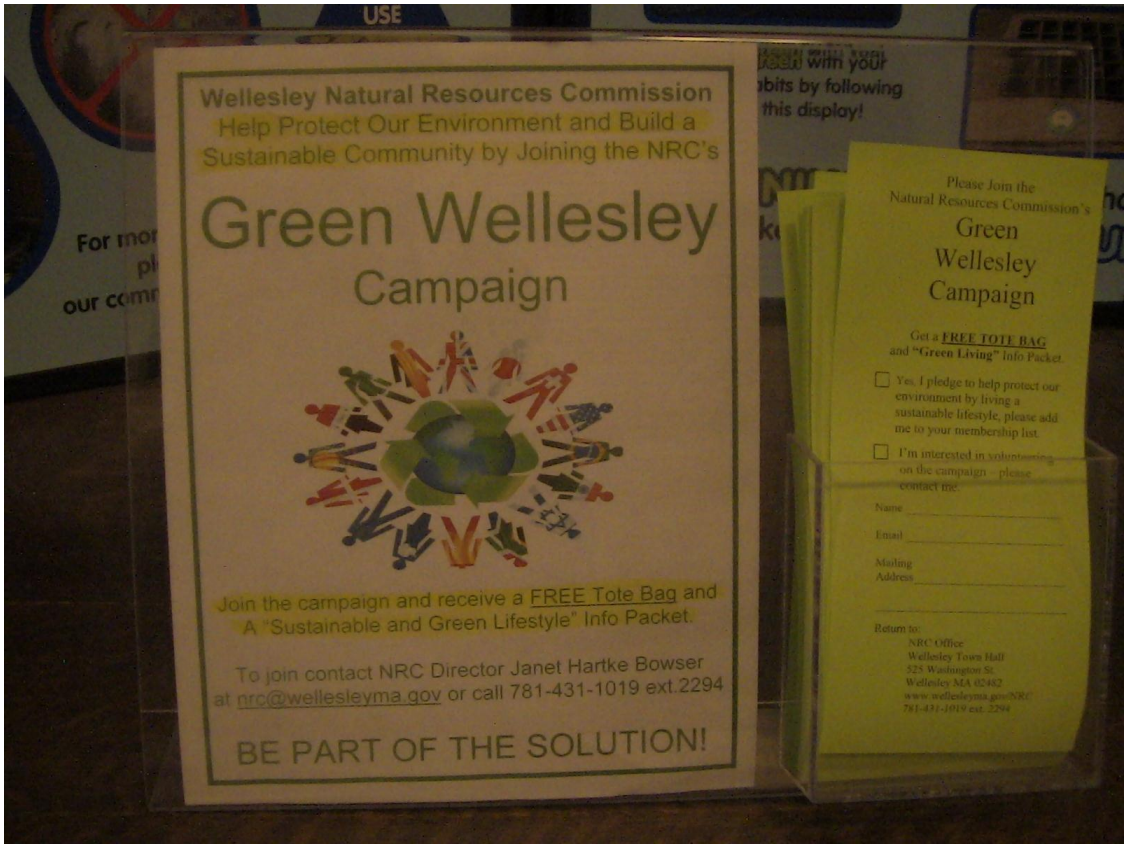
Going Green in Wellesley



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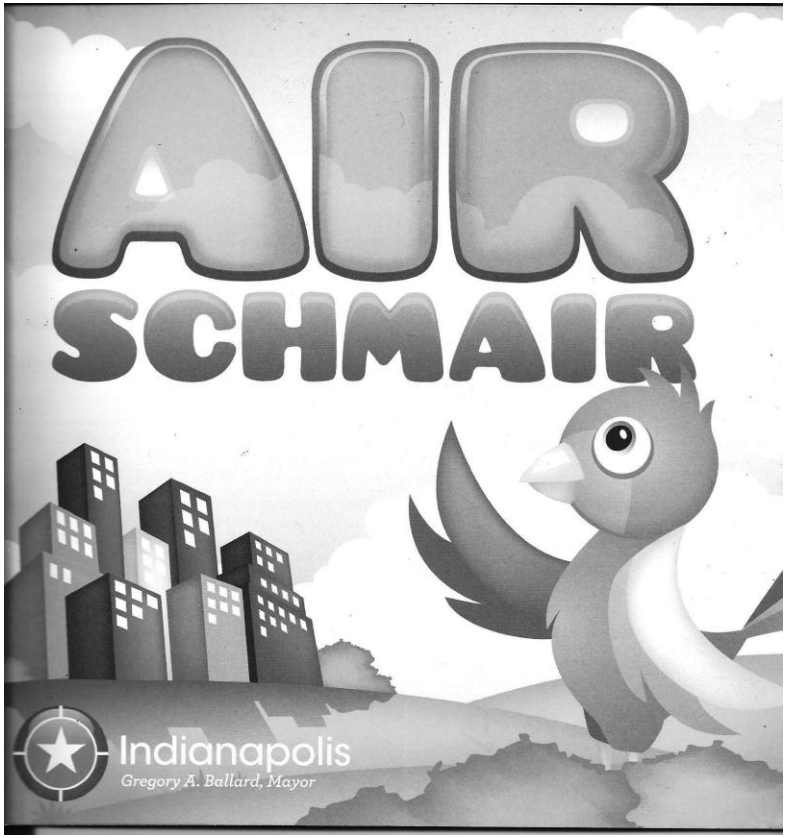
From the Indianapolis Office of Sustainability



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Sustainable Rhode Island

- Sustainable RI is a multi faceted initiative to transform Rhode Island into the nation's first Sustainable State. The Apeiron Institute launched Sustainable RI as the Rhode Island Sustainability Coalition in 2001 to put "sustainable" thinking at the heart of how we grow and develop our state. The Coalition, with more than 50 partners, can point to a number of successes

Global Warming Propaganda

The U.S. Postal Service® is growing greener every day. Here's how:

Eco-friendly packaging. The U.S. Postal Service is the first shipping company to achieve Cradle to Cradle Certification™ for packaging. These products are assessed for ingredient safety, reutilization potential and manufacturing sustainability.

Delivering on climate change. The U.S. Postal Service is the first federal agency to publicly report greenhouse gas emissions and get third-party verification.

Reducing our carbon footprint. The U.S. Postal Service has reduced its facility energy intensity more than 28% since 2003.

Here's how you can Go Green too:

Adjust the thermostat. Every degree you lower your thermostat in cold weather, or raise it during hot weather, can lower your energy bill by 3% and conserve valuable natural resources.

Use public transportation. Taking the bus, train or carpooling vs. driving your own car saves gas money and reduces pollution.

Plant trees. Besides producing oxygen and removing carbon dioxide and contaminants from the air, trees and other plants provide a habitat for birds and other wildlife.

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Drink Your Fluoride

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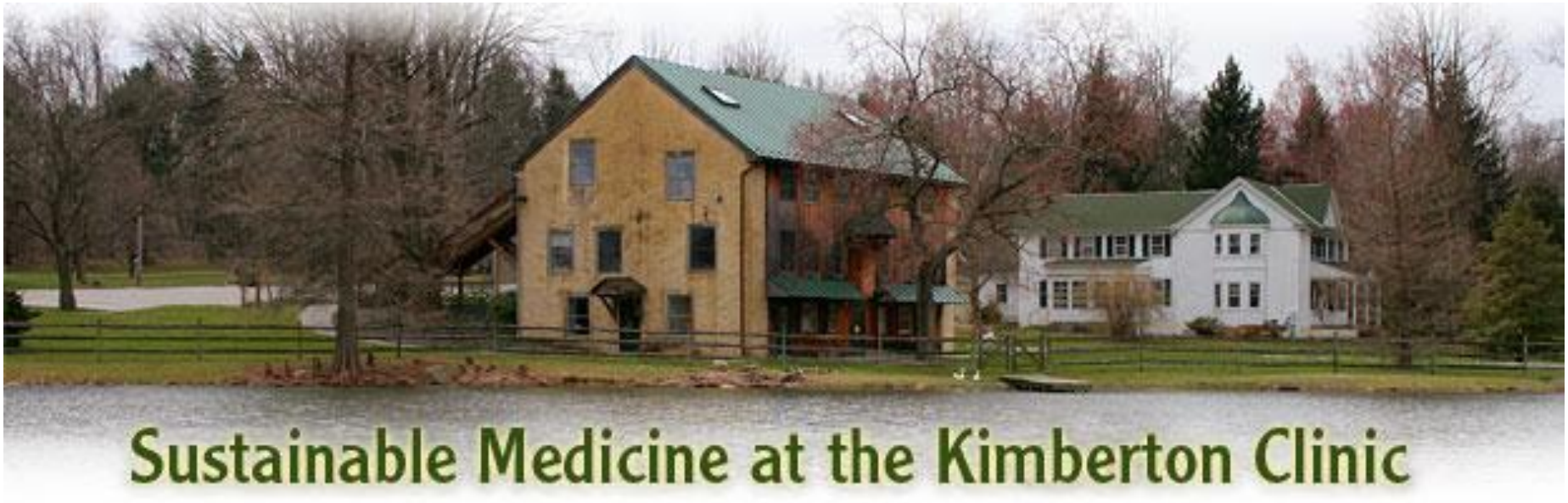
What Is Sustainable Medicine ?



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What Is Sustainable Agriculture ?

Pennsylvania Association for Sustainable Agriculture

Promoting Profitable Farms that Produce Healthy Food for All People While Respecting the Natural Environment

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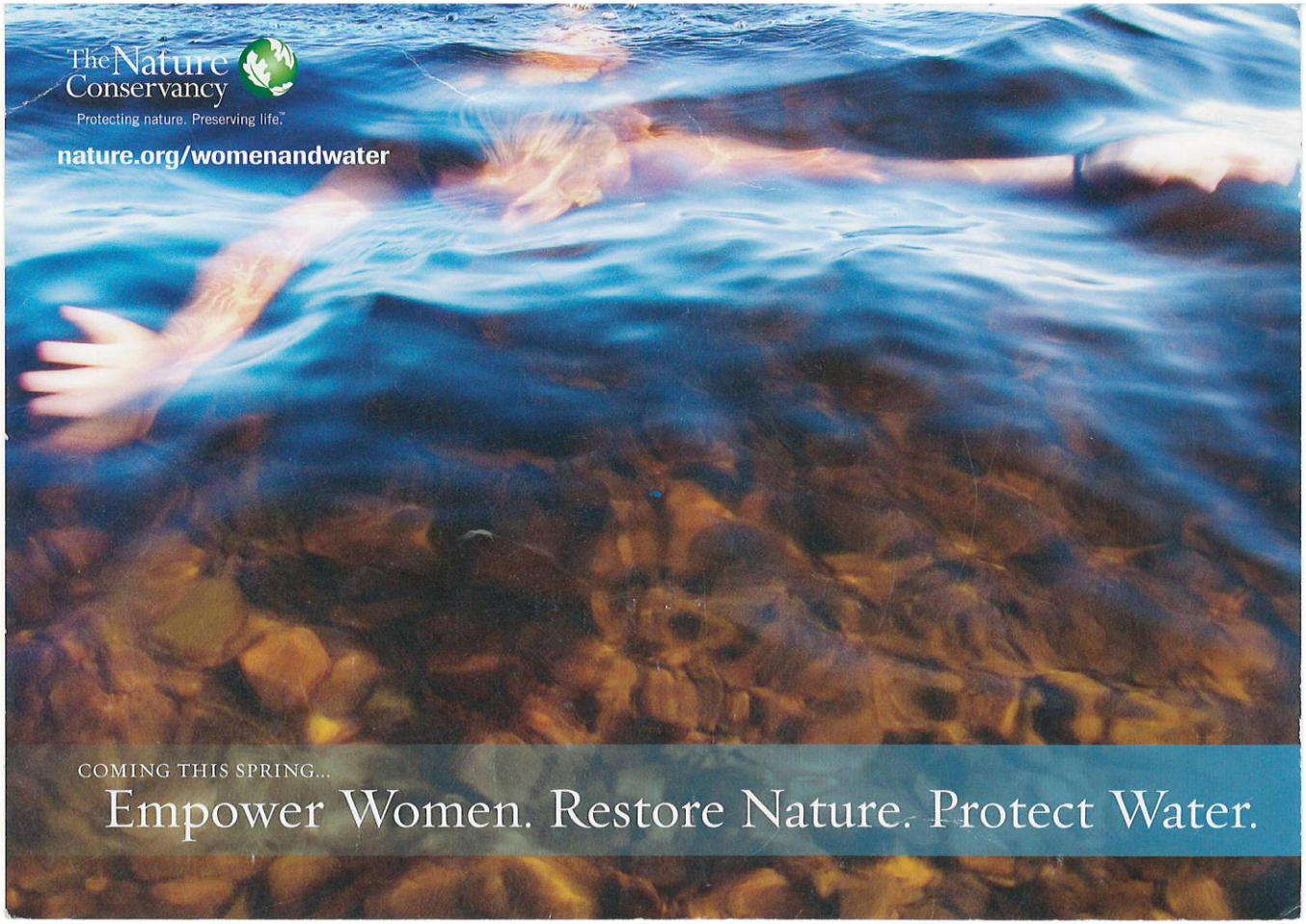
NGOs and Land Trusts

- Nature Conservancy: President Mark Tercek, CFR and Goldman Sachs


The Nature Conservancy
Protecting nature. Preserving life.™
nature.org/womenandwater
COMING THIS SPRING...
Empower Women. Restore Nature. Protect Water.

Rhode Island Land Trusts

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-
-
- **Agriculture in RI**
- Five farmers share their stories - the urgent need to protect Rhode Island's remaining working farms is complicated by challenges that farmers face: finding land to farm and sustaining the economic viability of farms.
- Click on the photo above to watch the video.
- **Protecting Rhode Island's Working Farms**
- Go to the **Farm Conservation** page for the Council's other videos and reports about farm conservation in Rhode Island.
- Rhode Island Land Trust Council
- The Rhode Island Land Trust Council is a coalition of the state's land trusts - community-based organizations formed to protect land that preserves the open spaces, natural areas, scenic character, farm lands, forests, historic sites, watersheds, and drinking water supplies that define the character of our communities and our state. Collectively, land trusts are preserving the special places that are our heritage and will be our legacy for future generations.
-
- Photo credit: David Thalmann, Aquidneck Land Trust
- Land Trusts in Rhode Island are grass roots organizations that reflect the uniqueness and priorities of their communities. The first land trusts in Rhode Island were formed in 1972 (Sakonnet Preservation Association and Block Island Conservancy). Today there are over 45 land trusts in Rhode Island operating in all but four of the state's 39 municipalities.
- Only seven Rhode Island land trusts have staff - the others are volunteer organizations. Dozens of people across the state dedicate 100's of hours of their time to preserve and manage

Maine Land Trusts

- *Maine now ranks second in the nation (after California) in acres conserved, according to the Washington, D.C.-based Land Trust Alliance, self-described as "the national convener, strategist and representative of more than 1,700 land trusts across America."*
- *The LTA's 2010 Census Report revealed 88 land trusts operating in Maine, including 60 staffed groups and 16 all-volunteer groups.*
- *Conservation easements are a tool many organizations—primarily land trusts—are using to shape the future use of land across the state and nation. Land trusts are usually organized as private, non-profit corporations, which—as part of their mission to prevent land from future human developments and to augment ecosystems—pursue conservation easement acquisitions from private landowners, often utilizing a combination of public and private funding.*
- *Sometimes trusts buy land outright, applying a conservation easement to the deed; other times they buy or have donated to them an easement for a privately held parcel of land.*
- *Donated easements of privately held land can take many forms, but ultimately they provide the holding organization a certain right to use or control the real property of another without actually possessing it. Most conservation easements transfer some present or future usage rights of the landowner to the corporate trust and create an enforceable land preservation agreement between the two entities. As an encumbrance to the deed, an easement tends to significantly reduce the fair market and taxable value of the land it covers.*
- *The sale or donation of conservation easements on the part of a private landowner to a trust is strictly voluntary, but the implications for the decision last in perpetuity: easements pass with the transfer of the deed to a property. The terms are perpetual—forever binding all future owners of the property to the terms of the easement.*
- *For centuries, land trusts offered individuals and organizations a mechanism to hide ownership and to provide a way of skirting the financial burdens of land ownership. Today, land trusts actively market the sale or donation of easements as a tax management tool. On the national scene, Mark Warda, in his book "Land Trusts for Privacy & Profit," details strategies for using land trusts to keep the purchase price of land secret, and to avoid probate losses, deed transfer costs, liens and lawsuits.*
- *A perusal of promotional documents from the late 1990s to 2005 from a number of Maine land trusts, reveals an intense marketing of easement donations as a way for landowners to obtain substantial income tax deductions and reduced property and estate taxes. While those factors still exist today, many trusts have limited this message and asserted the environmental and "common good" benefits of conserved land.*
- *"Land trusts are like snowflakes," says Rob Aldrich, communications director for the Land Trust Alliance. "They're all unique. The land trusts that are all-volunteer that are run by boards can be very effective and they can do great work at the community level. But we have noticed—and we've done a number of these censuses—that many times it's the groups with the larger staff that can conserve larger parcels of land or more acres per year."*
- *These groups also have larger budgets. "The budgets they have are used to protect that land in perpetuity," Aldrich said. "They have a large stewardship fund, they have a large conservation defense fund, and they have larger endowments. So some of those larger groups are more sustainable."*
- *"On the other hand, some of these small groups that are all-volunteer have been all-volunteer for many, many years," he said. "They have just proven by their existence that they are themselves sustainable. It's just that they do different things for the land trust community. The smaller groups have deep roots in the community; they know the community, they know the area, they know the landscape. They know what land the community needs. The smaller groups have that deep, intimate knowledge of their smaller communities, which is a big asset. Oftentimes the larger groups have the capacity to save more land."*
- *But as time goes on, smaller land trusts may not be able to raise funds to meet stewardship and administrative responsibilities associated with the land they control.*
- *"We're seeing a lot of land trusts that are merging with each other," Aldrich said. "They are just finding that banding together and having administrative costs borne by a larger organization allows people to be freed up to do the other work of the organization, which is the community outreach and things like that—the things that help organizations to be stronger."*
- *"The best, most successful mergers are ones that really only happen when both trusts want to merge," Aldrich said. "There has actually been a case where, I think, seven organizations merged into one. They all merge because they have the same interests."*
- *Concerns have been raised by the property-rights community in objection to the removal of landowner rights. How does Aldrich respond to their concerns?*
- *"Frankly, I'm a little bit puzzled," he said. "The whole nice thing about what land trusts do is that its private money—sometimes there's government money involved—but it's private organizations working with private landowners working to save land for the community.*
- *"These are voluntary agreements, they are private agreements," Aldrich said. "A person has a right to do with their land what they as they want. If they want to build a shopping mall on it, well, they have that right. If they want to protect it so there is no shopping mall on it, they can do that.*
- *"These property rights people seem to have an agenda, but I'm not sure what that is," Aldrich said. "We have tried in the past to talk to property rights folks, but that doesn't seem to get us anywhere."*
- *This is the second in an ongoing series about Maine Land Trusts – Read all articles here.*
- *Diana George Chapin is a freelance writer and a fourth-generation family farmer from Montville, Maine.*
- **Glad you liked it. Would you like to share?**
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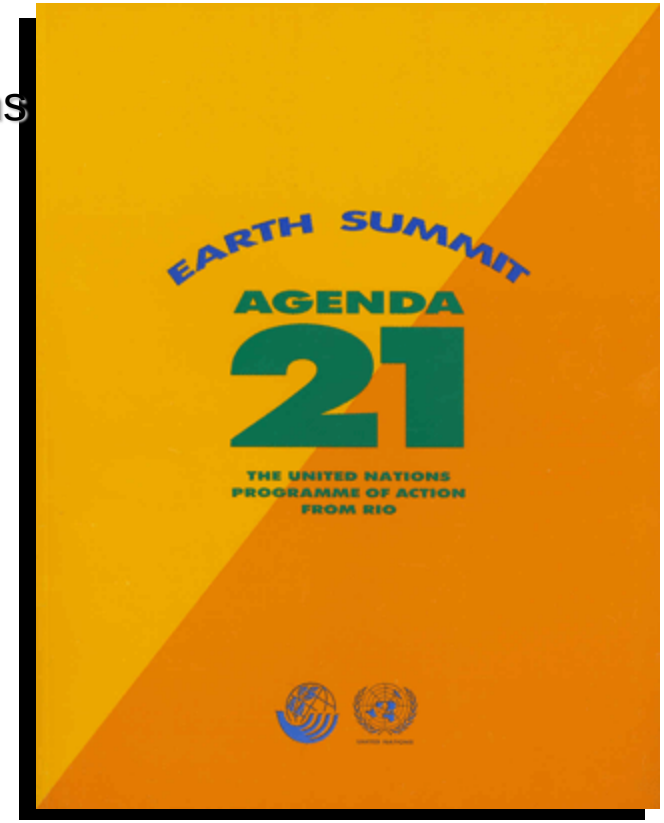
Agenda 21 In Action

- ✓ CLURPA-unelected regional planning commissions
- ✓ Proposed mileage tax
- ✓ Smart Meters
- ✓ Trash Police
- ✓ Flush tax?
- ✓ Green Codes
- ✓ Roads closed
- ✓ Idling laws and ordinances
- ✓ Manufacturing gone
- ✓ Property tax increase
- ✓ Rent Increases
- ✓ Lack of local, state and federal sovereignty
- ✓ Public and Private Schools promoting Agenda 21



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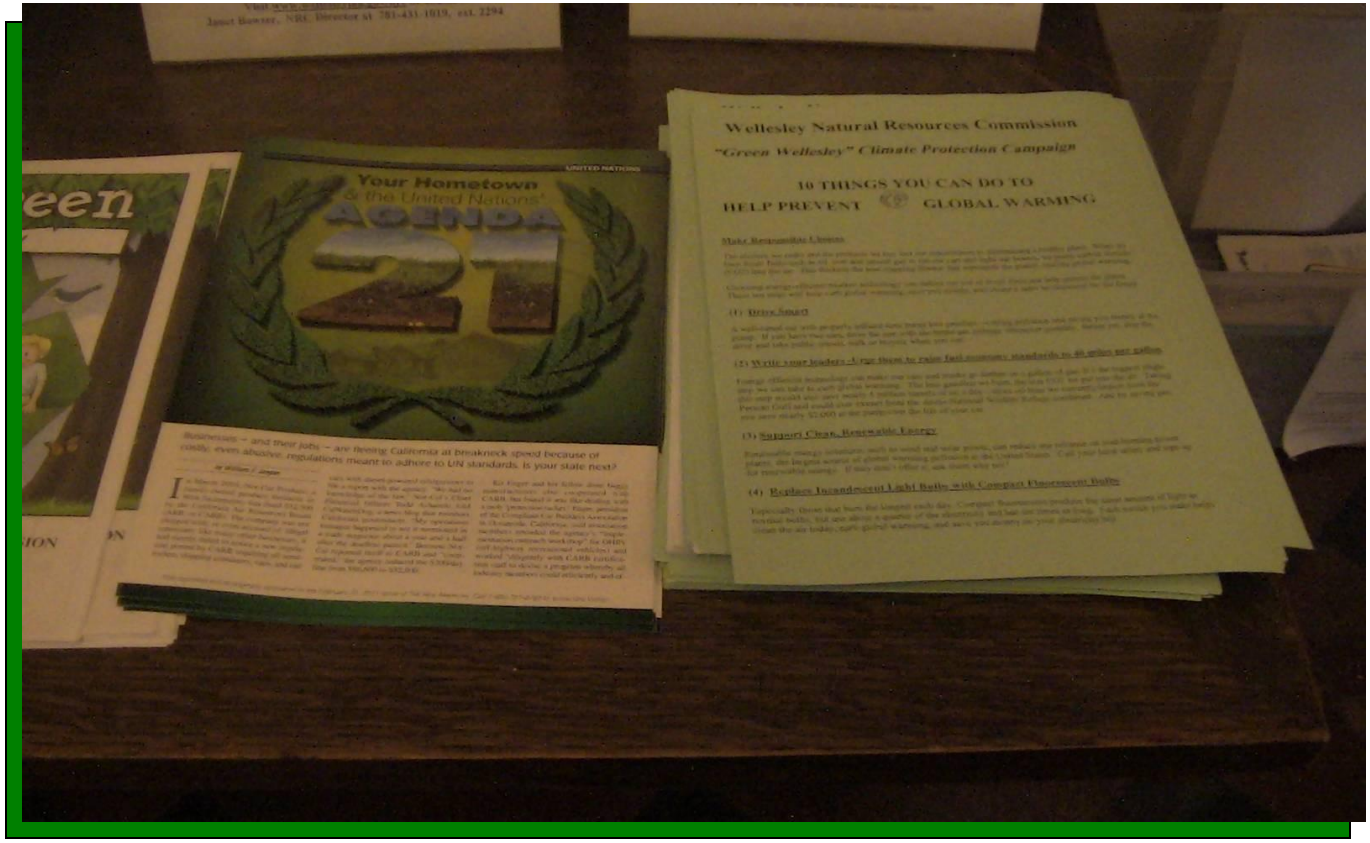

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Success:

- A number of towns, cities and counties have left ICLEI-
- Smart Meters decision in Maine
- Bills and/or resolution in NH, TN, GA
- Gateway 1 in Maine defeated
- Proposed legislation in Arizona
- Resolution against Agenda 21 passed in Tennessee
- Alabama bans ICLEI from stste
- Whatcom and Clamman Counties, WA
- Plantation, FLA
- Carver, MA
- Norman, Ok
- Lexington and Abington, VA
- James County and Albemarle Counties, VA
- Counties in Maryland and PA
- Somerset and Monmouth Counties, NJ
- Ocean County, NJ Resolution against Agenda 21
- Your Town, City or County?

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What Can You Do ?

- Spread the word and tell the people (Carver, MA example)
- Inform elected officials, opinion molders
- Visit your town halls, city halls, state houses
- Visit the editor of the local newspaper or reporter
- Host a meeting like this in your area
- Host a videotape presentation
- Spread our videos and articles on cyberspace
- Facebook or other Social Networking Sites
  "like" Choose Freedom Stop Agenda 21 or Stop Agenda 21 Stop the ICLEI
- Join The John Birch Society
- Start an ad hoc committee
- Go to jbs.org to get petitions, "how-to" manual, video clips
- Form a local chapter of The John Birch Society

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OUT OF TOWN
UN
INTERNATIONAL COUNCIL FOR LOCAL ENVIRONMENTAL INITIATIVES
MICHELIN